AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the specification, please replace the paragraph starting on page 2, line 11 and ending on line 13, with the following paragraph:

BI

--where R4 is as defined under the formula II, V and W are as defined under the formula III and R3 is as defined under the formula III,--

In the specification, please replace the paragraph starting on page 3, line 4 and ending on line 7, with the following paragraph:

BZ

--To an electrochemical reaction with an alcohol of the general formula II in the presence of an auxiliary electrolyte and catalytic amount of a metal salt (S) derived from a metal from the 1st, 2nd, 6th or 8th subgroup (subgroups IB, IIB, VIB or VIIIB; also known as Groups 11, 12, 6 and 8-10, respectively) of the periodic table, or from lead, tin or rhenium.--

In the specification, please replace the paragraph starting on page 5, line 3, and ending on line 13, with the following paragraph:

--The process is furthermore particularly suitable for the preparation of compounds of the general formula Ib:

B3

$$H_{2m}C_m$$
-CHOH-CH₂(OR⁴)₂—Ib

$$\underline{H}_{2m+1}C_m$$
-CHOH-CH(OR⁴)₂ Ib

where m is a number from 1 to 10, and R⁴ is as defined in formula II, and for whose preparation use is made of a compound of the general formula Vb:

In the specification, please replace the paragraph starting on page 7, line 15 and ending on line 18, with the following paragraph:



--Examples of suitable anode materials are noble metals such as platinum, or metal oxides, such as ruthenium or chromium oxide, or mixtures of the Ruo_x/TiO_x RuO_x/TiO_x type. Preference is given to graphite or carbon electrodes.--